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CHAPTER XI

Faith and Prayer

The Badawin proper are all Sunnis, either of the Hanbali or Maliki schools, as opposed to the Shi'ahs of Iraq, the Zaidis of Yaman and the Biyathiyahs of Oman and adjacent country.

Though fierce in battle and ever ready to raid and kill, the Badawin has one of the strictest codes of honour in the world. His belief in the One Great Almighty God, Indivisible, All-seeing and Ever-present, is impressive.

Throughout his life the name of God is constantly on his lips, and heard in almost every sentence he uses. Recurrent phrases are:

(a) *Wallah, Billah, Ei Billah Wallahi* (all meaning "By God") to emphasise that he speaks the truth.

(b) *Fi'amun Illah*—In the peace of God.
Hefazh-kum Allah—God guard you.
Fida'at Allah—In the custody of God.
To speed a parting friend or guest, and as general terms of farewell.

(c) *Tawaqal al Allah*—Put your trust in God.
Tawaqal-na al Allah—We put trust in God.
At the commencement of an undertaking, or journey, etc.

(d) *Allah Karim*—God is merciful.
To express resignation, or hope, when things seem to be going wrong, etc.

(e) *Sa'ad-kum Allah*—God assist you.
Ganawak Allah abbreviated to *Al Ganaw*—God strengthen you. Used by way of greeting and to encourage a person doing some special work.

(f) *La hawla wa la quwata illa B'Illah al 'aali w'al azkim.*—There is no might nor majesty except in God the most High and Wonderful.
To express astonishment at some strange sight, etc.

(g) *Stakhfar Allah*—God forbid.
La-ilaha-il-l'Allah—There is no God but God.
To ward off evil, etc.

The Badawin, like every Arab or true Muslim, believes that every-